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IOWA LIBRARY QUARTERLY

Issued quarterly by the Iowa State Traveling Library.

Entered as second class matter October 19, 1911, at the Post Office at Des Moines, Iowa, under the Act of July 16, 1894.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 10, 1918.

VOL. 15 DES MOINES, IOWA, JANUARY, 1949 No. 16

State Library Board

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THE LIBRARY OF THE
JAN 31 1949
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

A JOB for *EVERY* MEMBER*

THE A. L. A. HAS 18,300 MEMBERS

- IF 2000 of us obtained only one new member, **we could continue the International Relations Office for another year**
- IF 400 of us got one new contributing member, **we could undertake a vigorous program to implement the national plans**
- IF only 100 of us got one new sustaining member, **we could carry on an intensive program of recruiting**

WE CAN—

If We Are Willing to Make the Effort

*McDiarmid, E. W., "A Crusade for an Educated America." *A.L.A. Bulletin* 42:292, July-August, 1948.

IOWA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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1949

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Secretary	Margaret Davidson	Kendall Young Library, Webster City
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EDUCATION, FORMAL AND INFORMAL

Is there a too rigid boundary between formal and informal education? Do those who direct our formal education really believe that any gain in intellectual stature which comes through informal processes is not true education? A divergence of opinion has significance to the book trade, as publishers serve with their output the programs of both formal and informal education.

"Free reading" has gained rapidly in importance in education in the past generation, and, in the elementary schools, libraries provide a wide variety of reading to tempt the ambitious beyond routine lessons. This attention to informal reading brings divergence between the formal and informal in education, and many teachers and some pupils prefer to go along formal lines only.

In secondary schools the same divergence of theory appears. The high school library can be a reference library giving aid in class assignments, or it can add a service of reading guidance which will help the individual child to personal growth. This contrast between formal study and formal study plus informal reading and discussion exists at the college level also.

We have reviewed here these familiar theories because we have been reading President Conant's new book, "Education in a Divided World." If we read his eight-point program aright, education means formal education in which no place is assigned for libraries. Schools, even discussion groups and forums are given a place, but the public library is not.

Is the library not public education because it is not under the Board of Education? Some library systems are, but, if they are not so organized, they are just as surely public education, paid out of taxes and directed by an elected or appointed board. Are libraries not public education because they serve the public with diversion as well as with information and inspiration? That reasoning is not tenable.

Our public libraries are public educational institutions, and recognition of that fact is particularly important today. Programs of formal class-by-class, book-by-book education is not enough. Entire communities need to be educated for life "in a divided world." In the present crisis, when informed public opinion is our best

hope of a basis for sound action, it is not enough that we consider how we shall guide the new generation step by step and classroom by classroom. The whole body politic, but especially those who have come to believe that they have finished their education, need to be stirred to extend the boundaries of their knowledge by a broadened personal reading and study. Evening lectures, yes! Discussion groups, yes! Films and illustrated lectures, yes! But the most generally usable instruments for informal, personal post-school education are books in the home or in the public library. Libraries can work with classroom education at any educational level, but especially can serve to stimulate the thinking of our communities as a whole. Public libraries can extend the resources of every home library, and can insure that no active mind is without the stuff it needs to feed on. F. G. M.

—Editorial, *Publishers' Weekly* November 6, 1948.

1949 A.L.A. REGIONAL CONFERENCE—TRANS-MISSISSIPPI REGION

Fort Collins, Colorado, September 2-5, 1949

Instead of holding one annual conference in 1949, the American Library Association will meet in seven regional conferences, held consecutively in seven different cities. The second of these meetings is scheduled for Fort Collins, Colorado, September 2-5, 1949, when librarians of the Trans-Mississippi region will gather on the campus of Colorado A. & M. College. The Trans-Mississippi region consists of Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Manitoba.

The regional conferences are intended to bring the annual meeting of the national association closer to its members. This motive has particular application to librarians west of the Mississippi, who have often in the past had to travel 2,000 to 7,000 miles to attend A.L.A. conferences. The decision to try regional conferences in 1949 was made by vote of the A.L.A. Council in January 1948, and preliminary plans were made at the Atlantic City Conference last June. At that time, regional planning committees were set up, and the entire responsibility for planning and executing the regional meetings was turned over to these groups, which were elected by the librarians of the particular regions themselves as being representative of local, state, and regional interests. It should be emphasized that these regional meetings are avowedly experimental and that each region has been informally set up and designated as a region for this series of conferences only.

The planning committee for the Trans-Mississippi conference consists of the presidents of the eleven state and provincial library associations incumbent as of last June. The Iowa representative on the planning committee is Robert W. Orr.

The Trans-Mississippi planning committee has had four meetings and plans another one in Chicago, January 21. Last summer the committee elected three of its members to act as an executive committee to work out the details of the conference. These three are: Joseph C. Shipman, past-president of the Missouri Library Association and librarian of the Linda Hall Library, Kansas City; Donald E. Strout, past-president of the Minnesota Library Association and now Director, University of Denver Libraries; and Ralph T. Esterquest, Assistant Director, University of Denver Libraries, who serves as representative of the A.L.A. Program Committee.

Robert W. Orr of Iowa State College Library in Ames has been appointed chairman of the conference program committee. Although program-planning is at a very early stage, it is known that considerable attention will be given to the reports of the Public Library Inquiry, and Inquiry Director Robert Leigh plans to attend the Fort Collins meeting. The National Plan, recruitment, library extension, library education, and the work of the Fourth Activities Com-

mittee are other topics likely to be included on the program.

The Ft. Collins campus setting has much to offer. Housing in the college dormitories and eating facilities in the attractive Union Building promise an economy conference, which ought to be a pleasant relief after conferences of the last few years. The Union and other campus buildings present virtually limitless possibilities for meeting-rooms, all within easy walking distance. Colorado means mountains, and Ft. Collins is close enough so that delegates will have mountain recreation at hand and scenic drives available. A full program of recreation, entertainment, and tours are in the planning stage and give promise that the Ft. Collins meeting will be a happy combination of business and pleasure.

Committee personnel working on the Trans-Mississippi conferense is as follows:

COMMITTEE PERSONNEL

Planning Committee (The state and provincial library association presidents incumbent as of June 1948. Formulates conference policy.)
- Laurine Anderson, Nebraska Library Association
- William F. Baehr, Kansas Library Association
- Gena J. Bakken, North Dakota Library Association
- Ruth E. Bergman, South Dakota Library Association
- Mona Martin, Manitoba Library Association
- Mary Martinez, Wyoming Library Association
- Robert W. Orr, Iowa Library Association
- Joseph C. Shipman, Missouri Library Association, Committee chairman
- Lora H. Steele, Colorado Library Association
- Donald E. Strout, Minnesota Library Association
- Ralph D. Thomson, Utah Library Association
- Ralph T. Esterquest, A. L. A. representative

Executive Committee (Elected by the Planning Committee. Administers conference policy, supervises conference budget, assists program planning.)
- Joseph C. Shipman, Linda Hall Library, Kansas City, Mo., chairman
- Ralph T. Esterquest, University of Denver Library, A. L. A. representative
- Donald E. Strout, University of Denver Library, Denver, Colo.

Program Committee (Appointed by Executive Committee. Arranges professional program.)
- Robert W. Orr, Iowa State College Library, Ames, Iowa, chairman
- Irene M. Coons
- Ralph E. Ellsworth
- Frank A. Lundy
- Louis M. Nourse
- Forrest B. Spaulding

Local Arrangements Committee
- James G. Hodgson, Colorado A & M College Library, Fort Collins, chairman
- Benjamin F. Coen, vice chairman
- Walter L. Bain
- Josephine Halverson
- Mary Hoyt
- Louise Kampf
- Mary McGrath
- Mary Marks
- Floyd Merrill
- J. H. Peters
- C. Gordon Randolph
- Eugene H. Wilson
- Malcoln G. Wyer
- Warren Ziegaus

Local Arrangements Subcommittee Chairmen
- Eleanor K. Hard, room reservations
- Grace Cline, registration
- Laura Makepeace, recreation
- Lorene Ashton, dinner reservations
- Erne Stoner, information
- Mrs. W. F. Brownell, hospitality
- Margaret Hayes, transportation and tours

Exhibits Committee
- Mrs. Lucille Dean, Weld County Library, Greeley, Colo., exhibits manager

Publicity
- Ralph T. Esterquest, University of Denver Library, chairman

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES 75th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The American Library Association, the world's oldest and largest organization of librarians, will hold its 75th anniversary celebration in Chicago in 1951, it was announced by John Mackenzie Cory, Executive Secretary, in releasing the 1947-48 annual report of his immediate predecessor, Harold F. Brigham, Interim Executive Secretary.

The celebration will open at the 1950 annual conference of the A.L.A. in Washington, D. C., coinciding with the 75th anniversary of the Library of Congress, and will continue on a nation-wide scale into 1951, when the

celebration will be climaxed at the annual conference in Chicago.

"Looking to our 75th anniversary," the annual report stated, "it was felt that the Association should set measurable goals which would give certain tangible results to be celebrated in 1951. For example, a new statement of policy, designated as the Four Years Goals, was formulated and adopted during the past year. In the Four Year Goals, we state that we recognize the critical problems of our times, demand a redirection of the services of every library, and place a heavy responsibility upon all libraries to achieve the Goals.

"Major emphasis is being placed on spreading information and stimulating citizen-action on the critical problems facing our nation today. Libraries will have to change the intensity, direction, and even the nature of their services so that what the library does will contribute directly to the solution of these problems."

With censorship of reading and circulation of books and other printed materials a problem of increasing magnitude for libraries across the nation, a major step taken by the A.L.A. during the year was the adoption of an expanded and revised Library Bill of Rights. It condemns restrictions on intellectual freedom, stating that "the security of the state can best be maintained by defending, against all attacks, the basic freedoms which are our nation's most treasured heritage." The Bill of Rights has been brought to bear upon the recent controversy in the New York Public Schools regarding the banning of **The Nation.**

The report further pointed out that, despite the constantly-growing demands for trained librarians, "A critical shortage of librarians continues to face the profession. In view of this fact, the A.L.A. instigated a joint committee to consider ways and means of increasing the number of librarians. The Joint Committee on Library Work as a Career was organized a year ago and since that time has been actively engaged in formulating a program for recruitment."

Mr. Cory blamed low library salaries for a major share of the current shortage of trained librarians because salaries have not kept pace with increased living costs. A survey of salaries and working conditions of library personnel is being undertaken by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics in cooperation with the A.L.A. Full-time professional and non-professional positions in libraries of all types and sizes will be covered.

Mounting costs of all kinds—printing, salaries, supplies, and services—have forced curtailment of some of the A.L.A.'s operations, the report continued. While income has increased, costs have increased even faster. "Retrenchments have already been instituted, and other economy measures are well advanced to stem the tide, all in the face of a desperate need and demand for new activities and new services." The report also cites successful efforts to increase memberships and income from dues.

Films have become popular with numerous libraries during the past year, according to the A.L.A. report. "This has been the first full year of operation of the Film Service Through Libraries project, under a two-year grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York. The project has done much to further library activity with film, with 35 public libraries setting up new film programs and services."

Commenting on the report, Mr. Cory said, "The state of libraries in the United States today is not as rosy as we would like to have it, nor altogether gloomy. While rising costs and lagging incomes have certainly cut into our activities, the fact remains that librarians are facing up to the greatest challenge in their history. Such programs as the Four Year Goals show that librarians are aware of their responsibilities to peace and democracy in a world beset by fear, insecurity, and threats of both physical and mental tyranny. This awakening should instill in us a new pride in the significance of our profession."

*EXPLORING NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN'S READING

By MARJORIE A. CLARK,
Extension Librarian, Iowa State College

This is such a nice way for a librarian to begin the celebration of Book Week. Your 30th Annual Convention is just one year older than Book Week. I am so very pleased to be meeting here with you all this morning.

When I first received my topic it read, "Exploring New Horizons for Children's Reading." I started to think along those lines. Then I received a printed program and noted the topic as it appears, and now it's back to the first title. Well, you know there are people who make the same speech regardless of the title, so that is what I may do in part.

Because I am a librarian I'd like to give that topic a sub-title and say: "Explorations in Children's Reading;" or, "Is there a New Look in Children's Literature?" The answer is Yes and No. If we have short skirts with more wear left in them, we will wear them. If we have something "old" in the way of children's books and child appeal, I guess we will use them a bit longer, too. I am reminded right here of what happened in a book store one time. A woman went in to buy some books for her nieces and nephews. The book-store clerk showed her Mother Goose, Fairy Tales, some A. B. C.'s, Peter Rabbit, etc. The woman remarked, somewhat aghast, "But these are old books!" "I know, madam," said the clerk, "but the children are always new." And so they are, and what little children of today like is pretty much what children have been liking for a good many years. I may not be saying anything new to you, but if you can make some new application of it, I will have made a contribution.

Some people make New Year's resolutions; others wait until Twelfth Night and all the Christmas obligations are over to make their vows for another year. A few minutes ago I mentioned Book Week. What better time is there to make our reading vows than at this time? These vows can take on a little different aspect from most resolutions because they can include other people to an extent that ordinary resolutions do not. You can say—this year I am going to find out what books my children are reading. I am going to concern myself with their interests and help further them by knowing what books are available in those interests. I am going to make reading and books a family affair. I am going to outlaw the comics or at least ration and select them.

A few years ago **Consumer's Report** had this to say about Children's Books. "Books that fit badly make even worse Christmas Gifts than sweaters or gloves that don't fit. Clothing of the wrong size can be recognized the moment it is tried on, and in most cases it can be returned or exchanged. Ill-fitting books are, however, not so easy to spot." Mothers watch carefully to see that the sweaters and coats they buy are the right size—they don't want to buy anything that will make their children's shoulders hunch or their arms hang down in an awkward position; they buy shoes that are the proper size, thereby avoiding mis-shapen feet. An ill-fitting book will not cause any bunions that you can see, because you can't see into that brain where bunions grow because children have been given books that have been thoughtlessly selected. (Horrible thought, isn't it?) Mothers concern themselves over a child's diet. They make sure that it is as well balanced as they can make it, and if it falls below, there is always that one-a-day vitamin or a reasonable facsimile to give the diet a boost. How **good** it would be if parents concerned themselves over books the way they do over clothing and diet. Think what you have given a child, if all his life he can laugh over and love the books you and he read as a child. I'm willing to bet that you can't remember

*Talk given before the Women's Division, Iowa Farm Bureau November 15, 1948.

much about the clothing you had as a child, unless it was rather spectacular like a set of white furs or shiny boots with tassels on them, but I'm sure those of you who were read to and had lots of books as a child are experiencing a lovely warm sensation right now just thinking back to the nights that were finished off with "and it came to pass" or, "once upon a time . . . "

Almost every time children's books are discussed someone will remark: "I wish I had had some of the wonderful children's books that are being published today when I was a child. I think this is one of the few fields where the grass seems greener today than it did 20, 30, or 40 years ago. Even though we say "this is the best in the best of all possible worlds" the world today sometimes seems too much with us. But what child of today and what child of several generations ago could get a better start than with fairy tales, nursery rhymes and "once upon a time there were four little rabbits and their names were Flopsy, Mopsy, Cottontail and Peter . . . " There is pleasure and joy and delight in the simple rhymes and nonsense and wonder in these words. The writers of today who have the same touch of madness in them are the authors whose books are found in children's hands today. "Timothy Turtle" that very personable turtle who has been given us by that delightful team of writer-illustrator, Al Graham and Leo Politi, decided to go off on an adventure to Took-A-Look Lake and this is the advice he gets:

"Be an adventurer," lustily said
Frothingham W. Frog;
Fame isn't found (as you've probably read)
Merely by waiting around to be led;
"Don't be a dunderhead," crustily said
Frothingham W. Frog.

Or be enchanted with the rhymes and pictures of Nancy B. Turner and Tobor Gergely in "The Day It Rained Cats and Dogs:"

"Scotties and setters and tiny dogs,
Not much bigger than good sized frogs;
Courteous cats of every name,
Hurtling down with theothers came."

Do you remember the

"Dormouse who lived in a bed
Of delphiniums (blue) and geraniums (red)
And all the day long He'd a wonderful view
Of geraniums (red) and delphiniums (blue)."

And now it's impossible for me to use the words geranium or delphinium without going right on and saying geranium-red and delphinium-blue.

Leonard Wiesgard has given us a cat that talks to a fish and children love it. Animals do talk to each other, you know, and on occasions they talk to humans, but they are worlds apart from the animals who get dressed up to go walking with their Mummies and Daddies whom they love very, very much. There is rhythm and imagination in these verses I have been quoting and children make them their own. Verb doesn't follow subject down bleak, uninteresting pages. There is pleasure in repetition, the sense that the right words are being used because they are the words a child would use and if these turn out to be nonsense, so much the better.

Then come folk tales, myths and hero tales—and still the family share these delights. How can you refrain from telling the Indian myth of how the woodpecker came to be, when you see one of those beautiful but cruel birds. And it works the other way to have a private family language and say, "That woman better watch out, or she will turn into a woodpecker." Brush an eyelash from your child's face and say, "Too bad, Tom Thumb's stockings will be falling down." And watch the deep smile and far-away look that comes over him because he is hearing you say:

"An oak leaf he had for his crown
His shirt of web of spiders spun
And jacket wove of thistle's down
His trousers were of feathers done;
His stockings of apple-rind, they tie
With eyelash from his mother's eye:
His shoes were made of mouse's skin
Tann'd with the downy hair within."

From these tales the child meets characters who are not individuals, thank fortune, but types, and types of all sorts. Remember the lad who went to the north wind and after the third try at getting what he wanted, got a stick that would "lay on" until he told it to stop. Well, the lad learned something by that experience and I'm sure all who read and know that story share and profit by that experience. Then there is the story of "Boots and His Brothers." Boots was the boy who found an axe, a spade, and a walnut and thereby won half a kingdom and a princess. Don't worry for a minute that such stories are going to make dreamers of our children—they know there are axes and axes, spades and spades, and walnuts and walnuts. They recognize character, situation and opportunity which may be used to spur them on to accomplish some difficult task of their own.

Just this past week I was hurrying at noon to do an errand at the bookstore in campus town. In front of the store and looking into the window were two college boys. They were lost in the display that was in that window—children's books. One of them was saying, "Look at that! Mother Goose, but such a dinky little book. I'll bet it hasn't all the Mother Goose my Mother Goose had." Just then the other boy said, "There's the Little Red Hen—Do you remember how that started?" "Sure I do," said the other boy, and I said to myself, "Bless you, my children." Rejoice that they have kept a little of the mad magic that was their childhood.

Do you know any children who are suffering from chronic comic complaint? They are pale and listless or stimulated and out of control in turn. They develop peculiar habits like talking out of the side of their mouths, batting their defenseless friends over the head, or creeping up on you suddenly with the shrill command to "Stick 'em up!" If you know a child like that, it is your sacred duty to rush to his rescue and apply first aid. The Dr. Dolittle stories could be this first aid. Last winter one of my mother's friends came over to our house to play bridge. When she was "dummy" one time she went over to the book case and was browsing among my books. "Oh," she said, almost reverently, "Here is the Story of Dr. Dolittle." "My grown sons," she continued, "still put little references to him in their letters to me and their own children are crazy about these stories." It was a lucky day for animals and us too when the Cat's-meat man persuaded Dr. Dolittle to give up being a people's doctor and become an animal doctor. In no time at all Dr. Dolittle learned animal language and was fitting horses with spectacles. I don't know if veterinarians have a patron saint, but I'd like to start a movement to elect Dr. Dolittle to that honor. The excitement, adventure, the out-of-this-world happening are all in the Dr. Dolittle stories, plus charm, a sensitive feeling and the application of the golden rule, so unconscious that applying it becomes as natural as breathing. Dr. Dolittle stories are the property of every boy—they are those mental and spiritual shoes that you want to fit properly—they are the vitamin-reading tablets he needs.

If the patient didn't respond to this treatment, but of course he would, then give him William Pene de Bois' "Twenty-One Balloons." If Professor Sherman and some of his Rube Goldberg contraptions in "Twenty-One Balloon" don't leave Superman and his ilk far behind or what is better relegated to the ash heap, the patient better be put in blinders and prayed over.

Many families have the habit of reading something special at Christmas time—"The Christmas Carol"—or more lately "The Littlest Angel," "The Day They Gave Babies Away," or the chapter from Miss Hickory, "Now Christmas Comes." Our family is quite apt to read, at least a good ten days before Christmas, "Peterkin's Christmas Tree." Remember Mr. Peterkin bought a tree so large that the only thing they

could think of to do was to lift the ceiling in the parlor even if that made a hump in Elizabeth Eliza's room above. And remember how often the woman from Philadelphia saved the day for the Peterkins—she did over the Christmas tree, of course. I'm sure most families need the help of a woman from Philadelphia just the way the Peterkins did. The Peterkin Papers' modern counterparts are the "Chitter Chat Stories" by Margaret Self. And there's one in this collection to read at Christmas too.

So far we have been reading mostly for fun, so we better do an Alice in Wonderland and grow up fast and turn to something else. With the background we have obtained from the reading we have done we have found a key to the understanding of other minds—contemporary and of ages past. We have become independent of thought and opinion; we no longer **accept** what is said, unless we **know** and **feel** it to be so. How far we have come from a few generations ago when books were supposed to be read without questioning the author's purpose, ability or integrity! In this field, care must be taken to select the books that are informative, but brimming with vitality, accurate and alive, factual, but with the right blend of imagination. We are at the age now where people interest us—they can be heroes of today or of another age, so long as these people capture our imagination and are all-round regular fellows. Such a chap is "David Livingstone; Foe of Darkness." Jeanette Eaton has written a wonderful biography of this great man who was a doctor, missionary, scientist and explorer. A chap of another color is Henry Morgan, but Rosita Forbes has written about "Henry Morgan, Pirate," as he was; sly, cunning, cruel and charming. What a privilege it is that young people of today have writers such as these. Life is so full of the infinite variety we cannot hope to experience it to the full individually, but if we can share attitudes, beliefs, hopes and aspirations, we will have an understanding of life and people that obviously has been lacking in the world. Your daughter would find "The Girl Who Ran for President"—the story of Belva Lockwood —an inspiring story and perhaps something that would interest her in furthering the rights of women. Children and young people do not escape disaster—when it comes, they think about it and sometimes write about it—as did Noreen Linduska in "My Polio Past." This is a hopeful and even witty book, as is "The Pigeoneers" which is a story of the happenings in an orthopedic ward of a large hospital. These boys learn around their misfortune, accept it and benefit by the interest they develop in some carrier pigeons on the roof next to the hospital. I wish all college students who rebel at reading Thoreau's "Walden" would first meet him in "Hideout" by T. Morris Longstreth, a thrilling story of the days just before the railroads, when stagecoaches were having a hard time to hold their own. Young people of other lands have made their contribution to our understanding of them and their problems in the books they have written. "Home to India" is one; "Echo of a Cry" gives us insight into the lives of young Chinese-Americans.

I have been very personal in my remarks, but that is the way I have experienced reading—it is such a part of me and my family. It is something I have had all my life and shared with my family. Those books are mine, and they are me—we are a part of all that we have met. Many of the real successes written for children, have been written for real children—"Alice in Wonderland;" "Little Black Sambo" was written for children who were back in England while their mother was in India; "Wind in the Willows" and the "Stories of Dr. Dolittle" were written for the author's own children; "Peter Rabbit" was a letter to a sick child, a small friend of Beatrix Potter. "The P-Zoo" was written for a child

who couldn't tell the difference between P and B. So you see why their appeal is endless.

Make friends with the friends of your children—those friends who are in books. Make friends with your children's librarian. She knows what he likes and what he needs. If he likes horses, she will suggest "Misty of Chincoteague," a book that may become the "Black Beauty" of this generation. If he is apt to be too much in himself, she would suggest "Judy's Journey" or any of the Lois Lenski regional stories. If he is a young, young man with a financial problem, "Two Hundred Pennies" would show him the light and be good fun too.

If you need help, and you might. for up to November 1948, almost 800 children's books were published, remember the children's librarians who are aching to give it. One whole magazine "The Horn Book," is devoted to children's books, their writers, and illustrators. "Parents' Magazine" has an excellent children's book editor. The State Traveling Library brings books right to your door —so, in a manner of speaking, your library is as close as your mailbox. The Extension Service prepares a reading list of good books. The helps you can get are on every side of you.

And now I wish you a wonderfully rich experience, exploring books with your child.

PROPOSED LIBRARY SCIENCE PROGRAM AT LUTHER COLLEGE

The new North Central Association regulations for the accreditation and approval of secondary schools require that in schools with an enrollment of 500 or more pupils, the librarian be a full-time librarian who has completed at least 24 semester hours of library science; in schools with an enrollment of 200-499 pupils, the librarian may be a full-time librarian, a study-hall librarian, or a teacher-librarian who has completed at least 16 semester hours of library science, and at least one-half of whose time is devoted to the library; and in schools of less than 200 pupils, the librarian has completed a minimum of 6 semester hours in library science and devotes at least 2 periods a day to the library.

Most of the Type I library schools (including those at the universities of Illinois and Michigan) have reorganized their program to permit the granting of the M.A.L.S. degree at the completion of 34 semester hours in library science. The University of Michigan permits a student to take 10 of these hours in the undergraduate department—from 4 to 7 hours in library science plus from 3 to 6 hours in American literature and World literature.

In view of the above, the Library Science Department at Luther College recommends that the course offerings in library science be as follows:

For Teacher-Libarian: 16 semester hours

301. Cataloging and Classification
4 sem. hrs. (No change)

302. Reference
3 sem. hrs. (Increase from 2)

303. Children's Literature
3 sem. hrs. (Increase from 2)*

304. School Library Administration
2 sem. hrs. (No change)

306. Book Selection
3 sem. hrs. (Increase from 2)

Senior Bibliography
1 sem. hr.

*Increase for Library Science students only.

For Full-Time Secondary School Librarians: 24 semester hours.

Courses 301, 302, 303, 304, 306 and 322. Bibliography
3 sem. hrs. (To be substituted for Senior Bibl.)

World Literature, Classical Period
3 sem. hrs.

World Literature, Modern Period
3 sem. hrs.

For Students intending to do graduate work in Library Science: 10 plus hrs.

The Iowa Library Association will meet in Des Moines, Hotel Savery, September 29-October 1, 1949. Begin now to plan to be there!

STATE TRAVELING LIBRARY
Report of the Librarian
1947-48

The report of the State Traveling Library is so tied up with the County Library issue that it must be primarily a capitulation of the gains made to date and the efforts expended to bring about this progress.

Convinced that no improvement can come in Iowa libraries until the 400 libraries, large and small, are combined and larger areas established, we have made every effort to bring about the passage of a law that would make this possible. The result would be that a county, or several counties, could pool resources and establish library areas that would have sufficient financial resources to set up creditable library service.

The time is far past when one central agency can give the assistance needed in 400 libraries in Iowa communities. According to ALA there are only 11 libraries in towns of population over 25,000—the smallest population figure that can give adequate service according to their standards. Of course we know that there are good libraries in smaller places. We also know that this service would be enriched and strengthened if a county unit were established.

For many years, leaders in library affairs have been hammering away on the need for consolidation of effort and resources. Unfortunately, many of the members of the library profession in our state are in communities where there are enough people and sufficient funds to maintain good libraries. Unfortunately, too, many of these librarians are not aware of, nor interested in, the need for a change in the general situation. "Am I my brother's keeper?" is a question that is being asked or ignored, by many who should be deeply conscious that the answer is a hearty "Yes." If trained librarians are not willing to face their responsibilities and work for a solution of too many, too weak libraries, there are none to do it.

Granting that the demand for library service should come from the people who do not enjoy free library service now, the leadership in a library movement MUST come from the profession. The librarian who wrote that her staff would not attend the district meetings this spring "because the discussion is to be on county libraries in which we are not interested" was frank, but sadly mistaken. County libraries are going to be interesting to them and to all the rest of the libraries in Iowa. When they are here, we will all wonder why we waited so long to get them. Any librarian worthy of belonging to the profession must be concerned as long as nearly half of the people in the state have no free library service.

There isn't a library in Iowa that would not benefit by the greater interest and enthusiasm that will result from state wide coverage of Iowa by county and district libraries. There isn't a librarian who could not add to the prestige of his own library and county by coming out strongly in favor of it. Why, then is there such apathy? Maybe it is in the air. We are told that in years to come this will be referred to as the "Apathetic Age." It has been said also that when there is no vision, the people perish. This is true in our profession. Those librarians who have caught the vision, who have seen other states lifted from lower to higher ranks, know that this will come about when we in Iowa are united in our effort to extend library service to all the people.

Our apathy is a result of a smugness that comes with the realization that in the past we had a high literacy record (because of few foreigners in our population); that many libraries were established in towns and villages. We know now that many of them should never have been set up, but there they are to be cared for. For this reason, all the efforts of the past ten years have been toward the passing of a law that might make it possible to do something about this serious problem.

In 1947 our County Library Law

was passed. It is not a perfect law. Many flaws have been pointed out as is inevitable when compromises are made, as must be done in a democratic society, where everyone may have his say. In this case, librarians themselves were not unanimous on the issue and this proved to be our most serious stumbling block. But the law was passed and we got our start.

Since that time the Iowa Library Association and the State Traveling Library have expended every effort to bring about the establishment of county libraries. Mr. Orr, our president, prepared his excellent manual which was sent out to every library in the state. Any intelligent person who really wanted to be informed about the law and how to put it into practice, could find out by spending a little time reading and thinking about the information contained in this manual.

The District meetings were organized in such a way that everyone who attended could have a chance to discuss and ask questions so that the entire matter could be clear.

The report of the Extension Committee shows what has been done. It is interesting to know that in every library where sufficient interest has been aroused to get the petitions signed and presented to the County Board of Supervisors, a trained librarian was on the spot, working, talking and explaining. And we may be sure that they will go on working and explaining until November to assure a favorable vote. They know that action now is imperative. As the presidential candidates sweep over the country presenting their views, exhorting the people and making promises, so librarians and friends of libraries must bring home to the people of the several counties this library message, the message of better service in larger areas.

In the meantime, our library work has been carried on. Books in increasing numbers have gone out to schools, organizations, libraries and individuals, who depend on us for their library service.

We continue to act as advisors to the lonely librarians and the perplexed trustees in matters of policy, book selection, technical processes and public relations.

We are still cursed with staff shortages. Whether we could get a full staff if there were sufficient funds is an open question. I hail with admiration any librarian who is able to carry on in the face of the difficulties under which we try to work today. We are short one professional staff member, a serious shortage when it is on a staff where there are only seven professionally trained people. How long the rest of us will be able to carry on with one short is anybody's question. I can't answer it myself.

Recently I was asked to report to ALA the number of full time professional librarians, part time professional librarians and full and part time non-professional librarians. With the scanty information available (Scanty because in so many of the annual reports this information is not given) I made as careful an estimate as was possible. Practically none of the small libraries have librarians with any kind of training.

The results were somewhat surprising: 360 Professional and 611 non-professional librarians. Of these, 514 worked full time and 468 part time.

During the past year, there were two opportunities available for limited library training. At the State University, an 8 week summer term was offered. State Teachers College is offering a course for teacher librarians. There were 46 enrolled in that course last summer. It is time now for untrained people to begin to plan for next summer. Library board members should make it their business to see that their librarians have some training. It is unfair to expect a totally untrained person, even if she is a nice girl or a fine woman, to run a good library if she has never been trained.

As far as the situation of the State Traveling Library is concerned, there is much to be desired. Our

greatest desire is to give the kind of service so desperately needed over the state. This means that we must continue to give stop-gap assistance as we keep our eyes on the objective ahead, which is a unified service that will reach even those who feel today that they don't need help.

Blanche A. Smith, Librarian
State Traveling Library

PERSONALS

Florence Butler, director of children's work at the Sioux City Public Library, spoke at the Teachers of Tomorrow club at Northwestern Junior College at Orange City, November 8, 1948.

Vail Deale, of the Drake University library staff, has been elected president of the Des Moines Library Club for the next year. He succeeds Esther Hughes. Other officers are:

Mary Elizabeth Ledlie, vice-president
Elizabeth Briggs, secretary
Mary Marquis, treasurer
Christine Smith, executive board member.

Herbert Goldhor, formerly a member of the State College Library staff and now in the Library School of the University of Illinois, has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor of Library Science. Dr. Goldhor has also been appointed Director of the Laboratory Library Project. This project is the first of its kind in library education and is an adaptation of the experimental or laboratory school as developed by the graduate schools of education. By arrangements with the Trustees of the Urbana (Illinois) Free Library, that library is to be used as a laboratory wherein may be tested under realistic situations many of the assumptions now accepted in library service, where new mechanical devices and other equipment may be experimentally tried and their use analyzed, and where new library services may be developed and studied.

Rena Gray, Osage librarian for many years, has accompanied her sister, Sadie, to Colorado Springs where they plan to spend the winter.

October marked the second anniversary of **Nellie Hopper's** Book Shop which is located at 107 S. Cedar Street, Jefferson. After retiring from active library work, Miss Hopper realized a dream of long standing when she started her book shop. Her 26 years of serving the public qualify her to advise what books will be best for the different ages and tastes of her book buying public. The store is located in Miss Hopper's home.

Catherine Redmond, formerly children's librarian in the Cedar Rapids library left in December to accept a position in the Beverly Hills, California, library. In November, Miss Redmond was named "Woman of the Week" in the Cedar Rapids **Gazette.**

Ethel M. Rush, of Fort Dodge, has been appointed supply librarian for the European command of the United States occupation forces. She will be stationed in Bad Nauheim and from here will direct the supplying of books to 195 special services libraries and 150 deposit collections. Miss Rush has been with the army library service for five years, having served overseas since 1947.

Eugene P. Willging is director of the Catholic University in Dubuque. He has been assistant librarian since 1946. He compiled the annual Index to American Catholic Pamphlets since 1937 and was co-founder in 1941 of the semi-monthly review periodical Best Sellers.

NEWS FROM IOWA LIBRARIES

Albia—Mrs. Laura Duncan, librarian of the Albia Public Library, occupied the community spotlight in the golden anniversary celebration of Albia's Order of the Eastern Star. She is the only living charter member of the chapter. In an editorial from the Albia **News** the following statements were made:

"She is a good citizen—a good public servant—a good friend to scores of Monroe county men, women and children.

Mrs. Duncan has an enviable zest for living. With a rich background of knowledge covering a substantial share of the total history of our community, she doesn't live in yesterdays. Alert, aggressive, progressive, she keeps pace with the

times . . . is consistently optimistic. Her opinions on the past, the present and the future are spiced with a delightful humor.

In her long career as librarian, marked by a sincere love of books, Mrs. Duncan has not become lost in either the hard, cold world of statistics or the fictional realm of make-believe. But, at the same time, she has encouraged an endless number of boys and girls—and men and women, too—along the paths of pleasure and knowledge found only in the field of literature.

Mrs. Duncan enriches the daily life of the community in which we live."

Atlantic—By action of the library board, the non resident fee has been raised from $1.00 to $2.50 a year.

Battle Creek—Mary McComb has been forced to give up her library work because of illness.

Britt—Mrs. Ada Chaplin, who has served as librarian for 25 years, was presented with a purse of money by the Britt Women's Club on the eve of her departure for California where she was to spend a month with her son.

Cedar Falls—State Teachers College—The memorial library honoring the memory of the late Dr. Monica Wild, head of the Women's Physical Education department of Iowa State Teachers College for many years, has been set up at the women's gymnasium. The personal library of Dr. Wild was donated by members of her family and a maintenance fund has been subscribed by alumni. The books are available to all students of the department.

Inwood—Mrs. G. M. Albertson has been appointed librarian following Mrs. H. A. Henrickson's resignation. Mrs. Henrickson will take the place on the library board which Mrs. Albertson held.

Mrs. Albertson was librarian of the Fremont, Minn. library for 21 years. She received her library training at the University of Minnesota.

Iowa City—State University Library—The library has received 1400 volumes of 16th and 17th century literature from the late Professor E. N. S. Thompson. Many collector's items are contained in the collection.

Marion—Mrs. Ruth Mills, formerly librarian in Adel, is serving as part time assistant in the library.

Mason City—Because the actual cost of library service per person was $4.03 last year, the library board has set the cost to out-oft-own borrowers at $4.00. The cost of borrowing a book on the economy cards is 25c, beginning January 1, 1949.

The number of members of the library board has been raised to seven.

The Rev. Alvin N. Hogness was elected president of the Friends of Libraries at the annual meeting in November.

New London—Cleo Robertson has resigned as librarian to take full time work with the telephone company where she has been working part time. Mrs. Wesley Peterson, who formerly served as librarian, will succeed her.

Mrs. Elmer Watson is assistant librarian.

Oakland—A memorial shelf to be known as the E. P. Harrison memorial shelf is being established in the library. Members of the family have provided an annual endowment of $50 for the purchase of books for the shelf. Other friends may add books to the collection if they wish to do so.

Odebolt—The fiftieth anniversary of the library building was observed November 26 with open house at the library.

Rockwell City—Mrs. W. D. Minor was appointed to succeed Mrs. Evelyn Van Wagner as librarian. Mrs. Van Wagner moved to Aberdeen, S. D.

Spirit Lake—Mrs. Bernice Bergman, who has been librarian for the past five years, resigned in order to devote more time to other interests. The new librarian is Tom Rumbaugh.

Waterloo—The Mayor's action committee, after a study of the library conditions in the city, concluded that two libraries should continue to be maintained but recommended that both library buildings be enlarged by 1950.

Whittemore—"A Bushel Buys a Book" day was observed November 20, and many patrons came with the bushel or its equivalent. The price of corn was more a year ago but the

price of books is higher now.

The ambition of the librarian at the time the library was organized for service was to circulate 100 books each Saturday. On this Book Week Saturday, 501 books were borrowed.

NECROLOGY

Mrs. R. F. Ashbaugh, secretary of the Sigourney library board since 1921, died in a Sigourney hospital, December 27. She was taken ill on Christmas Day. Mrs. Ashbaugh had been a faithful trustee of the library since 1914.

Mrs. Velma Bayles, charter member of the New Market library board, passed away at the Municipal Hospital, Clarinda, on November 12, 1948. For the past two years, Mrs. Bayles served as vice-president of the board. She had formerly served on the book committee and the building committee. Until illness prevented, she was a faithful and active worker for the library and all important community activities.

Mrs. H. F. Hartje, pioneer member of the Adair library board, died August 31, 1948. Mrs. Hartje had served faithfully as chairman of the book committee. She had also made generous contributions to the library from her own books and those of her father, former Senator A. C. Savage.

Linn Jones, director of Childrens work in the Des Moines Public Library from 1920 to 1927, died December 31 in Redlands (California) Community hospital where she had been a patient since December 19. She was born in Dubuque but spent most of her girlhood in Clinton. After graduation from high school she studied dramatics and was a member of the Players Stock Company, Bush Temple, Chicago. She later attended Summer Library School at Iowa City. She worked with Annie Carroll Moore in the New York Public Library two years before attending Simmons Library School. She held library positions in Sioux City and Oak Park, Illinois, before coming to Des Moines where her outstanding work with the public schools will be long remembered. At the time of her retirement in 1945, she was serving as librarian at Chatham, New Jersey. Since then she has resided in Redlands.

Margaret E. Lindsay, who served as librarian in the Manchester Carnegie Library for 30 years, died in a local hospital October 1, 1948. In 1941 she had left the library to care for her brother and sister living in Manchester.

Lee S. Maxson, until 1947 president of the Tipton library board, died December 21, 1948. He had been in ill health for some time.

Mrs. O. R. Prettyman, member of the Manson library board, died in August following an operation. She had served as a board member since 1931, rarely missing a board meeting and always willing to take her turn in serving.

Mrs. C. Van Epps died at her home in Iowa City November 16, 1948. She had been a member of the Iowa City library board for 20 years, serving as president for many years. Her intelligent interest in the library was displayed in attendance at meetings and wide reading on library matters. After her retirement from the board, she and her husband made a generous contribution from their own library to the public library.